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The Early Swarms.

These are trying times for the bee keepers whose hives are not well stored with honey. Even the golden willows are not far enough advanced for the bees to work upon. The apple blossoms faintly refuse to be guided by the calendar, and not even a bud is yet to be seen. It is not only the light swarms that are likely to be affected by the unfavorable weather, but those whose hives were heavily stocked in the fall, both with bees and honey, and which would naturally be the best producers in the coming season, are more likely to starve in the spring than those light swarms which have not consumed as large a proportion of their stores.

Several years ago as I was feeding my bees for winter, a rustic halted his team by the roadside and hailed me interestingly: "What ye doin', feedin' yer bees?" "Yes," I replied, "What do ye feed 'em?" he pursued, and I told him it was sugar syrup. "Do ye turn it right or left?" he questioned. "Certainly," said I. "Well," he drawled, dismally, "I fed mine that way once and the stuff ran all over 'em and danged 'em all up and killed more'n half the darned critters." "Oh," said I, "but you see I turn the syrup into mine."

During the warm days a fortnight ago, I took the precaution to feed my bees two or three pounds of sugar per swarm. I put a super on the brood nest, with the feeding trough inside, and fed the syrup (made in proportion of four pounds granulated sugar to a quart of boiling water) using the syrup while quite warm. Even swarms not actually requiring food will be stimulated by this to earlier and more extensive brood-rearing, consequently the working force will be larger when the honey season opens. I removed the supers soon as they emptied the feeders, closing them down on the brood nest, because of the present cold weather.

If you are a farmer, don't forget to sow some alike clover this spring. Your bees while gathering sweets from it to gratify your appetite, or add to the farm income by its sale, will materially increase the value of the clover crop for your dairy. If you do not own a farm, try and interest some of your farmer friends to sow it, perhaps even to the extent of furnishing some one with the alike seed to sow.

Vermont. HILAS D. DAVIS.

Do Grain Crops Pay?

In the article by D. H. Thig, he asks, "Why do not the farmers of Maine and other New England States raise what is their greatest regular cash bill of household expense—flour?" When your wife tells you the flour is about out, put up a grit and go to the mill just as your father did, and when you go home you will have \$6 or \$7 in your pocket to grow corn on."

Since Mr. Thig gave up farming, I am afraid he has not kept himself properly informed as to the money making chances in raising wheat, for I hardly see how he figures out his profit of \$6 or \$7 unless he took a pretty big grit to mill with him.

The 1904 Year Book of the United States Department of Agriculture classes Maine on the wheat question as follows: "Acreage 1904 was 7725; total crop (bushels), 179,922; value per bushel, \$1.04; value of 1904 crop, \$187,192; bushels per acre, 23.31; income per acre, \$24.23. From the Maine State College, Bulletin No. 97, we learn from a number of milling experiments that one hundred pounds of wheat produces approximately seventy pounds of flour. Of this seventy pounds, approximately fifty pounds is No. 1 grade, twenty pounds No. 2 grade, and thirty pounds bran and middlings.

On the basis of the above, it would require, if I have made no error in computation, 6.37 bushels of good wheat to produce one barrel of first-grade flour. At \$1.04 per bushel, the 1904 price, 6.37 bushels of wheat would make your barrel of flour cost \$6.62. You would have the same number of pounds of No. 2 flour and bran and middlings.

A warranted bread flour can be bought for \$6 per barrel or less, and warranted pastry flour for 35 per barrel, and as the

average family uses at least as much pastry flour as bread flour, it is fair to call the average price for the two \$5.00 per barrel, and in that case, his grit barrel has cost \$1.12 more than it can be bought for in the market.

In Maine all the flour mills are located in the northern part of the State, that is, in those mentioned in Bulletin No. 97, so, as I figure it out, the No. 2 flour, bran and middlings would not pay the expense of milling the wheat, pay freight, etc.

In a State where the farmers can raise sweet corn of a value of \$80 to \$100 an acre, besides a good crop of good fodder for cows worth \$20 per acre, potatoes at the rate of 175 to 250 bushels per acre, and where orcharding is a paying proposition where the up-to-date methods are employed, it seems to me more money can be made by letting the West raise our wheat, corn and oats, the three staple grain crops, which can be done on an immense scale, and consequently by the most approved methods, and at the smallest cost of production.

As I have brought up the question of corn and oats I will give a few figures from the 1904 Year Book as to their value in Maine: 1904 corn crop, acreage, 12,971; bushels, \$10,979; value, at \$413,868. The value is abnormally high on account of the short crop in the West. Taking the 1904 crop per acre of 30.7 bushels, which is the highest since 1882, and figuring it at the average price for 100 years, we have an income of \$23.75 per acre, which is a little lower than wheat.

Oats, 1904, acres, 113,937; bushels, 4,170,826; valued at \$1,875,872; bushels per acre, 36.6; income per acre, \$16.47. This gives oats the poorest place of the three as a money crop, and is just the price at which oats can be purchased for at the grit mill today.

Either of the three crops offers poor prospects to the farmers of Maine in comparison with other crops. It is natural for a man to work along the lines of least resistance, and this probably accounts for the Maine farmers adopting the best money crop, and allowing the poorest paying to be raised where conditions are more favorable.

D. J. BYRNE.

Afalfa Needs Thorough Treatment

How difficult it is to induce a rural population to farm as successfully as the city people, who have the advantage of the use of labor, is where the small farmer portion have made no attempt to grow it, others having had a failure on their farms unadapted to the crop have made no further attempts.

For instance, it would be waste of time, trouble and money to sow alfalfa on stiff clay, impervious soils or on loans with a hard subsoil.

DURING A HOT AND DRY SUMMER

The value of alfalfa should be very apparent. It would be about the only green herbage to be seen, and when grass lands and clover bogs have been burnt brown, it would afford hay, succulent and valuable forage. I know in one part of England, in the dry summer of 1901, a farmer took sufficient daily from a two-acre field for twenty-six milch cows—one bull and fifteen calves, and no stock could have thrived better or proved more satisfactory.

A writer giving his experience in the Agricultural Gazette of England stated that he began cutting in May, since which till October, there was never a week without mowings, according to requirements, being taken from some portion of the plot. "Mowing and successive growth, in season and out of season," he says, "is one of the advantages of an alfalfa plot. Stock of all kinds appreciate it and pigs eat this summer sated voraciously."

LOAMY, LOOSE SOILS.

Alfalfa, a very deep rooting plant, will only attain the highest perfection on light or loamy soils where there is a good and free subsoil, as the roots penetrate to a great depth to find moisture. It is also a lime loving plant, and where this mineral exists in the soil, the growth is proportionately luxuriant. It should not be sown on cold clay, or on loams with a hard subsoil, though some have succeeded with it even under those conditions. The preparation of the land for alfalfa is somewhat important. A heavy dressing of manure and deep plowing is a necessary factor, and any extra expense in getting it into good heart, clean, and in fine tilth will be well repaid.

If the land has been occupied previously by potatoes so much the better. The land as soon as cleared should be deeply plowed two or three times, then harrowed and rolled. Aim especially at securing a clean, fine tilth with a fine seedbed.

IN SEEDING.

drilling without grain crop is perhaps the best, but it is frequently sown broadcast with a thin crop of oats like an ordinary clover seed. When it is grown in drills, it allows of the surface being kept clean and free from grasses and indigenous plants more easily than when grown broadcast. The annual hoeing is a very important factor in the successful culture of this crop. In fact, to keep the plant in full vigor and to obtain the best result, this operation is absolutely necessary every year, for when grown as a self crop alfalfa is very impatient of the shade of other plants, and quickly deteriorates if left unattended.

On the European continent, where it is growing broadcast early in each year the lands are very effectively harvested with heavy and sharp tined implements in all directions, until the field looks more like a bit of plow land than a drilling site, and this rough treatment leaves no debris to the crop. On the continent, however, alfalfa is not sown broadcast, but sown in rows, and the same treatment applies to these.

CORN MULCHES AND BRAIN DISEASE.

Wanted bread flour can be bought for \$6 per barrel or less, and warranted pastry flour for 35 per barrel, and as the

The seed should be drilled from seven to ten inches apart, at the rate of from eighteen to twenty pounds per acre. Where the future plant cannot benefit by hoing by hand it may be drilled.

WHEN THE PLANTS ARE UP

an inch or so high the hoe should be run lightly through the rows. During the early part of the winter a heavy dressing of manure should be applied. Early in the spring of the succeeding year the ground must be carefully and deeply hoed between the rows. With this treatment cuttings should be ready about first part of June, and successive crops will be rapidly produced, which may be cut and eaten.

It should always be borne in mind that the cuttings must be made before the plant reaches its full flowering period. If made into hay it will be necessary to use the greatest care in turning the swaths, as the leaves become very brittle, and if roughly used much waste of valuable forage will occur.

of winter wheat and other varieties of grain and fruit. Indeed, the three above were among the first to encourage the work of growing fruit trees in New York, having at one time quite an extensive nursery of seedling saplings from which there are bearing trees now to be seen.

A portion of the old original lot with buildings comprising the farm of 120 acres, owned and occupied by L. D. Cook, now, where Mr. Cook was born seventy-six years ago and has always resided, never having realized the delightful change wrought by so many day experiences. Indeed, Mr. Cook is emphatically a home man, and it seems to have been the main object of himself and his companion in life to make the most of the pleasures that an old-time home affords. Their five children, a son and three girls, were educated at Oberlin College and are now living, one only, the youngest son, Irving C. H. Cook, now residing on the farm, a convenient distance from the old homestead, the sup-

erintendence of the peach though in a small way is deemed of much importance for family requirements at least. The severe winter of two years ago nearly ruined an entire planting of bearing trees of the Crestay variety that were highly pruned, and were replanted last season with new trees. Berries are also cultivated in full supply of several favorite sorts, supplying a succession of these delicious fruits during the entire season.

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Notes from Washington, D. C.

TO BREED GOOD BLOOD.

The amendment has been made by Assistant Secretary W. M. Hays, Department of Agriculture, that since scientific breeding of plants and animals has accomplished such marvelous results, the same general plan is to be thoroughly investigated by men of science with relation to its application to the improvement of the human species. Professor Hayes is also secretary of the American Breeder Association, and he has recently organized a committee to investigate this particular subject.

"This is one of forty-three committees of the association," he said, "the work of the others relating to the breeding of different kinds of animals and to investigations relating to the general subject of breeding heredity to the natural evolution of the species. The committee is composed of leading breeders, scientists and teachers of breeding in this and other countries. The committee on eugenics, or the association of the breeding of man, will investigate and report on heredity in man and on ways and means of preventing the multiplication of the undesirable, and more vicious stock in the country."

GUY E. MITCHELL.

The Advantages of Buckwheat.

A somewhat neglected grain is buckwheat, which stands at the bottom of the list of principal grain crops. It is grown almost entirely in the northeastern part of the country. For various special purposes the crop is entitled to more favor than it now receives.

Among its strong points are its vigorous growth even on poor soil, and the quickness with which it reaches maturity, ten weeks being long enough under favorable conditions. It will give a fair yield on soil too poor for most other crops. It may be planted after the rush of spring work is over, but it pays to get the soil ready early in the season.

Early plowing and harrowing at intervals of a few weeks puts the soil in a condition to insure a big crop. It will grow without much fertilizer, but responds profitably to even small applications. From three to five pecks are usually sown per acre. It may be sown with a grain drill or broadcast and harrowed in. It should not be sown later than the first week in July and from the middle to the last of June is better, although late sowings are more likely to avoid hot weather while the grain is forming.

The buckwheat crop seems to vary more with the season than with the soil. The crop should be cut before the first hard frost. The peculiarity of the grain ripening unevenly causes a great deal of immature grain at time of harvest, but much of it will ripen while lying in the swath. It is usually allowed to lie a few days in the swath and then set up in stocks, the tops held together by a few stems twined around the top, the handling being done when the crop is a little damp to avoid shelling out the grain. The buckwheat in this condition is good for feeding poultry, letting the work over the grain and straw together. In this section, where only small lots are raised, it is common to thresh out the crop with the hand flail on the barn floor.

Quite often the crop is cut a little early and used as a green forage for the dairy cattle. It is good for this purpose, but as it comes at about the same time as corn and gives a smaller yield per acre than that crop, it is not recommended as a substitute, but has its advantages, as it can be grown much more quickly and easily and cheaply than almost any other sowing crop.

Some farmers plant buckwheat to be plowed under. It is one of the cheapest crops for this purpose, as it can be grown on almost any soil and makes a large quantity of vegetable matter to be turned under. It smothers out most kinds of weeds, including white clover, thus helping to clean the land when used as a green manure.

Buckwheat is much liked by poultry and is considered an excellent egg feed. Birds are also fond of the grain, and are apt to cause considerable trouble where only a few fields are grown in a locality. There are no insect enemies which have proved serious.

Buckwheat is grown, by some potato growers, for the reason that it leaves the soil in a hollow condition. The following rotation is sometimes recommended for heavy soils: Clover, buckwheat, potatoes, oats or wheat with clover. The first crop of clover is harvested early and the land plowed again and sown to buckwheat, which is harvested the following season.

Keep the stable clean; standing in wet muddy mud by the feet of the horses tends.

Dairy.

Milk Inspection at Boston.

The inspection of milk in Boston is not a complicated proceeding, but it is a thorough and complete test.

The law requires a producer of milk to furnish an article that shall contain three per cent of fat and twelve percent of total solids from October to February inclusive, and 37-10 per cent of fat and thirteen per cent of total solids from September to March inclusive. The milk must not contain over 500,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre, or be held at a temperature higher than 50°.

The outfit used by the inspector for collecting samples of milk for the bacterial test consists of a copper case lined with asphalt and contains compartments for sterilized sampling tubes, crushed ice, ice water and sterilized pipettes. The milk inspector with his outfit visits the depots of the milk contractors and secures thirty samples of milk daily from as many shippers or producers. The samples are taken from the cans as they are unloaded from the car. The greatest precaution is taken in securing samples. The milk in each can is thoroughly mixed, the temperature of the milk and the number of each can is recorded and four or five cubic centimetres of the milk is drawn with a sterilized pipette and put into one of the collecting tubes. The collector is supplied with a sufficient number of pipettes so that a sterile pipette is used for each sample. As fast as the samples are taken they are placed in the case and are kept at a temperature of 35° until they reach the laboratory and all is ready for the test.

For the bacterial test one cubic centimetre of milk is mixed with one thousand cubic centimetres of sterile waters. One cubic centimetre of this mixture is then plated with a culture media.

The agar-agar culture which is generally used is prepared in the laboratory by thoroughly mixing one litre of water, ten to fifteen grammes of agar-agar, two to four grammes of beef extract, ten grammes of peptone and five grammes of sodium chloride.

After boiling slowly for half an hour the mixture is filtered and drawn into small test tubes. The media is then sterilized and is ready for use in the culture plates, after being inoculated with the diluted milk sample. The culture plates are placed in an incubator and kept at a temperature of 70°. At this temperature germs develop rapidly.

The temperature of 53.25 per cent. of the samples recently tested was below 50° and within the limits of the law, while 46.55 per cent. of the samples had a temperature above 50°.

Examination of the milk is also made for the presence of pus cells. From a statement made by Dr. Slack of the Board of Health we learn that one sample out of every fifty is condemned because of the presence of this decaying animal tissue.

As yet not any of the milk dealers have been prosecuted on account of this law, but many of them have been warned, and beginning with the coming summer the law will be enforced.

F. A. TINKHAM.

Care of the Separators.

The Department of Agriculture has the following advice to owners of separators:

If the mechanical care of a separator is important as affecting its durability, the sanitary care of the machine is doubly so, as affecting the purity of the produce which passes through it. Milk—one of the best and purest of human foods—is one of the quickest to become unfit for food if it is not kept clean and handled in clean vessels. While the purchaser of a separator has been again and again impressed with the idea that it must be kept in perfect order, the same agent has told him that the parts which come in contact with the milk did not need to be washed often than once a day, and that the cream should be delivered once a week.

It is right here that the advantage of the hand separator to the farmer may turn to naught, unless cleanliness, which is so essential to purity of product, and to profit in the business, is thoroughly impressed upon the user. It is not enough to rinse the machine out with a little warm water and let it stand until next time, for the slime and solid particles of uneaten matter in the bowl are at just the right temperature to decay, and an evil smell soon develops. The machine must be well washed after every separation of milk.

There are some things about washing vessels which come in contact with milk that the average housewife needs to learn.

The dishcloth, as found in the average kitchen, should never be used on dairy utensils. It is the exception where one will be found to smell sweetly an hour after it has been used; and yet milk utensils are often washed with it and wiped with a towel that has done duty on all the china and glassware of the household, and possibly the pots and kettles, before the tinware of the separator is touched. Discard the dishcloth and the dish towel while the milk utensils are being washed.

Wash them in warm water first, with plenty of some washing compound, and use a brush to do the work, but never a rag. Get into every part of them, after which rinse off with clean warm water, and then either put them in boiling water or pour boiling water over them. Stand the parts up so that they will drain, and use no cloth to wipe them. The hot surface will dry them quickly and they will be clean. Leave the parts in a sunshiny place if possible. This may seem to be putting too much stress on the case, but evidence gathered in the field shows the need of some vigorous words along this line.

The outside of the frame, which does not come in direct contact with the milk, also needs scrupulous care. Cases have been noted where the color of the machine could scarcely be distinguished because of the grease and dirt or dried milk covering the paint. Pure cream could hardly be expected to come from such a place. It is pleasant to know that at more than three-fourths of the farms visited the separators were well kept and the people were trying to do the best they knew how. There was, however, a great lack of knowledge.

Butter Control in Holland.

So perfect is the system of "butter control" in Holland, that if a farmer or creamery sends out adulterated butter, such butter can be traced to the individual farmer or creamery which manufactured it, and then, of course, the penalties would come into force. So far those who have longed themselves together have kept faith with the government under whose auspices the system has been established.

The system is practically this: the government supplies labels to, say, a creamery. Each label is, first of all, numbered differently, and bears also a letter. A register

is kept by the government of how many labels (and of what number and letters they bear) are sent to the creamery. The labels are so thin, and so arranged that if after being placed on a package of butter, one attempts to pull them off, they will tear in all manner of ways, and thus they are unable to be used again.

Improving the Ayshires.

According to E. P. Fender, the Maine Ayshire breeder, this popular breed of cattle is becoming more numerous in New England. The leading breeder, he says, is getting rid of the chief defect of the breed, the short test, a result due in part to the change in the standard, which now rates the tests at eight points out of one hundred. Mr. Fender favored allowing ten points, but he considered it a great step in advance to have the change made now, instead of having the tests reckoned with the rest of the udder. It was his belief that breeders should strike vigorously at the weak point of the breed in order to place it on the basis which its other merits demand.

Quality and Competitions.

It is a self-evident truth that competition is the life of business. If one producer furnishes a better article than another the consumers will soon find it out, and the demand for his milk must soon convince others who are losing trade that they should improve the quality of their milk or go out of the business. There are no farmers in Vermont, or very few at most, but who would gladly improve their facilities for producing clean milk if they had the means or if the income from their production would warrant it. As a rule, a man gets all he pays for, especially if he buys from a farmer.

No doubt but what a more wholesome and sanitary milk supply would be beneficial to the public health, and the way to get it is to pay the producer for it, and not so many officers to look after it who know nothing of the business. E. M. PIKE.

Vermont.

Literature.

SIR LAWRENCE ALMA-TADEMA.

In this book, which is the first one in the Artist's Series, we have an entirely trustworthy biography. It is distinguished by great clarity of statement, and the writer, Percy Cross Standing, received the direct sanction and practical co-operation of Alma-Tadema himself. The progressive steps by which the great painter attained eminence are fully set forth, and the illustrations which appear in the text in an entirely relevant way were selected and arranged under the supervision of Sir Lawrence.

There are reproductions of paintings in this volume which never appeared before, besides illustrations of the better known work. Four of the pictures are in color. A photograph of the autograph portrait of the artist, painted for the Uffizi Gallery, appears as a frontispiece, while the other numerous full-page illustrations are of the finest quality half-tone process.

The book will be of great service to the student and to the general reader, for it is instructive and interesting, and sheds a great deal of light upon the inspiring career of a great artist who believes that persistent labor is the secret of success in all the arts. One chapter is devoted to Alma-Tadema's work for the theatre and the design he made for Sir Henry Irving. Mr. Beerbough Tree and Mr. F. R. Benson. We are told by Mr. Standing that Alma-Tadema is extraordinarily methodical in his habits, and that care and orderliness distinguish every little task of his daily life, for his paint brushes are washed by his own hands, his library is catalogued and classified by himself, and the whole of his correspondence—a big slice out of the working day—is conducted by himself unaided. (New York: Cassell & Co. Price, \$1.50, net.)

PARTY LEADERS OF THE TIME.

There is nothing biographical in this volume, but it brings many of the prominent American statesmen of the present time prominently before the mind of the reader, with references, of course, to some of the political struggles in which they have been engaged. The writer, Charles Willis Thompson, became familiar with their peculiarities from close observation as a correspondent of the New York Times and the Philadelphia Public Ledger, and he apparently set down his impressions without political bias or personal prejudice.

The result is a series of singularly interesting sketches in which many erroneous opinions are corrected, so that we have true pen pictures of people who have achieved fame and eminence in the public counsels of the nation and elsewhere in diplomatic and governmental circles. Mr. Thompson has the light touch of the practiced journalist, and he never wearyes by long digressions upon his subjects. He is always apt and to the point. The volume, in its initial chapter, is devoted to some aspects of Roosevelt, and this is followed by a number of Senatorial portraits, the first of which refers to Eugene Hale, who is described as a grim-visaged man, red of face, and with a sort of war-mus all over him, and we are further informed that "the great debates of the Senate have been in progress for years in whatever room Allison, Aldrich, Hale, Spooner and Platt of Connecticut may have been gathered to decide what should be the policy of these United States on a given subject." Other divisions relate to Representatives, Cabinet officers, Count Cassini, as a diplomatic ideal, and to some who are not foremost in the Capitol at Washington, but are well known outside this field, and a special chapter is devoted to Governor Higgins of New York. The book is crammed full of timely matter, presented in a bright and sprightly manner, and has several good portraits. (New York: G. W. Dillingham Company. Price, \$1.75.)

THE LITTLE COEURIN SERIES.

To this editing and entertaining series have been added "Our Little Mexican Cousin," by Edward C. Butler, and "Our Little French Cousin," by Blanche McManus. The writer of the former was secretary of the American Legation in Mexico, and is therefore familiar with its present life, so different from that of thirty years or so ago, when there was little exhibition of modern progress in the country. There is much historical information in this little book couched in an unobtrusive manner, besides bright glimpses of customs and manners that furnish a good picture of the little brother of the United States. The second volume under consideration relates primarily to a little girl living in a Belgian village, but this is only the starting point for more informative reading concerning the uses of France and references to the distinguished people who have made it known, including a charming and forcible account of the fete of St. Rocco, and a touching tribute to the Maid of Orleans. It is a charming up-to-date record that Amer-

ican children will heartily appreciate. (Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, 50 cents each.)

FIVE FAMOUS FRENCH WOMEN.

In this book by Mrs. Henry Foyet, L.L.D., we have biographies of Jean d'Arc, Romeo, Duchess of Berry, daughter of Francis I.; Louise de Savoy, mother of Louis XII.; Louise of Savoy, mother of Francis II.; and Regent of France during her Spanish captivity; Marguerite of Navarre, Duchess of Alençon, and Queen of Navarre, sister of Francis I.; the French Queen of France and other leaders of the Medici family; the Marguerite de Medicis, and Jeanne d'Albret, the fourth Queen of Navarre, daughter and granddaughter of the foregoing, and mother of Henry IV., and grandmother of Charles II. and James II. of England. "The Mate of Orleans" is treated in an entirely sympathetic manner in this volume, and her virtues and her patriotism are fittingly recognized. The account of her career reaches this truthful conclusion: "In the greatest natures of all is to be found the union of the man and of the woman, strength and tenderness. It was this union, almost to a miraculous degree, that was the special wonder of Joan of Arc. That our poor human nature can rise now and then to such sublime heights makes a halo of glory for the whole race, and can give us thoughts that too often lie deep for tears." In the preparation of this well-considered volume the most approved authorities were consulted, and the material thus acquired has been sifted and clarified with the best results. It has an exhaustive index and several illustrations appropriate to the lucid text. (New York: Cassell & Co. Price, \$2.00.)

THE UP-TO-DATE WAITRESS.

A book more useful and informative than "The Up-to-Date Waitress," by Janet Mc-

kenzie Hill, could hardly be written. (Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, 50 cents each.)

The Golden Chronicle.

The Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts.

In this book by Mrs. Henry Foyet, L.L.D., we have biographies of Joan of Arc, Romeo, Duchess of Berry, daughter of Francis I.; Louise de Savoy, mother of Louis XII.; and Regent of France during her Spanish captivity; Marguerite of Navarre, Duchess of Alençon, and Queen of Navarre, sister of Francis I.; the French Queen of France and other leaders of the Medici family; the Marguerite de Medicis, and Jeanne d'Albret, the fourth Queen of Navarre, daughter and granddaughter of the foregoing, and mother of Henry IV., and grandmother of Charles II. and James II. of England. "The Mate of Orleans" is treated in an entirely sympathetic manner in this volume, and her virtues and her patriotism are fittingly recognized. The account of her career reaches this truthful conclusion: "In the greatest natures of all is to be found the union of the man and of the woman, strength and tenderness. It was this union, almost to a miraculous degree, that was the special wonder of Joan of Arc. That our poor human nature can rise now and then to such sublime heights makes a halo of glory for the whole race, and can give us thoughts that too often lie deep for tears." In the preparation of this well-considered volume the most approved authorities were consulted, and the material thus acquired has been sifted and clarified with the best results. It has an exhaustive index and several illustrations appropriate to the lucid text. (New York: Cassell & Co. Price, \$2.00.)

THE UP-TO-DATE WAITRESS.

A book more useful and informative than "The Up-to-Date Waitress," by Janet Mc-

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Poultry.**Raising Turkeys.**

In order to succeed in raising turkeys, the eggs should be given to a quiet hen in a clean nest. She should also be dusted with insect powder two or three times while she is sitting. In case she happens to break an egg, the other eggs, as soon as the mishap is discovered, should be washed in lukewarm water, and returned to a clean nest. Though turkey eggs, as a rule, hatch much earlier than hens' eggs, it impedes their incubation for the shell to be dirty. At best they require from twenty-eight to thirty-two days to hatch, and even then those from which no pouls have hatched should be given a little more time unless it is found that they are rotten, which can be ascertained by shaking them slightly.

When the pouls are twenty-four hours old they should be placed, with the hen, in a good coop having a board bottom, raised off the ground by means of cleats nailed on the under side. Then to keep it clean, dry sand should be placed inside, and this frequently changed for a new supply. Connected with the coop should be a pen ten feet square for the pouls to run in; it should be made of boards a foot in width so that they cannot get out and wander away from the hen. Unless prevented from wandering around they gain strength slowly, and will often die of indigestion. Indeed, they are so sensitive to heat and cold that if one is found drooping it should at once be taken into the house, wrapped in an old woolen cloth, given a few drops of milk, deposited in a box or basket and kept there until it recovers. Remember, it will not do for them to get wet, either from being out in the rain or running through the grass when the dew is on.

At first, they want feeding at least six times a day on curd and bread-crumb mixture, with milk added to make a rather dry mixture. An occasional raw egg added to the mixture will do no harm. Hard boiled eggs, crumbled fine, will also help them to grow. Soft food, in truth, consisting of the materials named, and including sour milk cheese and cornmeal made into a stiff mass, for variety, should be given until they are two or three months old. The grit provided for them should always contain powdered charcoal, and plenty of good clean water is an absolute necessity; that there may be no danger of any of them getting drowned in it, it should be presented in shallow dishes.

When the young pouls are large enough to leave the pen, they may be fed any kind of grain. Wheat is perhaps best, in that it keeps them growing rapidly and fattens them beautifully for the early market. Prior to this, however, they should have free range whenever the weather will permit. Green food and insects are very essential to them, and there is little danger of their being hurt by the heat if they can find tall grass or weeds in which to run. Once their heads get red and they are well feathered, the victory of growing them may be considered as won. They will then be quite able to take care of themselves, if fed at morning, noon and night, until the time comes to begin to fatten them, which is generally after the frost has destroyed the forage and insects.

At all times they should be watched for lice, and when young it is well to grease them with a little lard, or, better yet, some drippings may be mixed in their food for a few times, when they will grease their own feathers. It is a good idea, too, to feed the hen shelled corn before feeding the pouls, for then when their turn comes she will not be so hungry as to rob and neglect them.

FRED O. SIBLEY.
Otsego County, N. Y.

Practical Poultry Points.

Cleanliness is next to godliness in poultry culture as much as in anything else. Clean quarters keep down the lice, prevent sickness and add to the good returns.

Lice soon weaken the strongest fowls, check egg production and make the business unprofitable.

Warm houses, good roofs and clean runs pay for all the attention they require.

Good sharp grit prevents indigestion. A neglected case of indigestion will lead to liver trouble, then the fowls go light and die.

Corn is one of the very best fattening foods and the worst egg-producing grain that can be given. You cannot grow fat and eggs in the same carcass at the same time.

Regularity in feeding, watering and caring for the stock makes the work more easy and successful.

When buying an incubator, avoid the cheap makes and accept only such as are the most generally used by practical poultrymen. The same with brooders and brooding systems.

Watch for the first symptoms of a cold. Five drops of tincture santonin in a quart of drinking water will generally effect a cure.

Green out bone is the best animal food that can be given in winter, but if the fowls have a range in summer they will not need any.

Never allow the drinking vessel to be exposed to the sun during hot weather. Put it in the coolest place possible.

Lehigh County, Pa. S. K. MOHR.

Hens, Cows and Fruit.

I do not think cows and hens go together at all; for they both must have attention night and morning, and the average farmer cannot keep enough at the present price of farm labor to do the work. A hen must have attention both night and morning to bring good returns.

Fruit and poultry go well together. In the winter the farmer can give them lots of time. The poultryman to be successful must love the hen, and I think he should keep full bloods.—A. A. Tilton, Belknap County, N. H.

The Chickens.

When the chicks are hatched, remove to a good dry coop in a sunny exposure. After twenty-four hours give them a few flakes of rolled oats and grit and provide a dish of clean water and keep it before them at all times. After three or four days they will get tired of the rolled oats, when cracked or small wheat may be given in limited quantities, also fine cracked corn.

Better feed no meat until the chickens are three to four weeks old, when a mass composed of three parts wheat bran, one or two parts cornmeal, one part feed flour and one part of meat scraps, mixed quite dry, may be fed twice daily, morning and the last feed at night. The balance of the ration wheat and cracked corn. In other words, I put them on the same ration as my laying stock.

It is a good plan to keep the mother hen confined in the coop and let the chicks go as far as they wish. In this way I avoid many losses from the chicks being led

about through the wet grass. If the hen is in the coop all the time the chicks have a dry place to go when they want to be heated.

I have board floors in the coop to prevent rats from burrowing in, and at night I set a wide board up in front to keep out stragglers. D. J. BYRNE.

Drawn Poultry.

The State (Ct.) Agricultural Experiment Station has issued a bulletin on marketing poultry and it contains the following on drawn poultry:

Practically all dressed poultry should be shipped to market undrawn. Most commission men and dealers prefer to handle undrawn stock, claiming that it keeps much better. The basis for this claim is that the incision in a drawn fowl readily admits worms and germs of different kinds into the body, where they find ideal conditions for rapid multiplication. The cavity is dark, damp, and not easily accessible, and frequently a drawn bird, which outwardly appears all right, is really unfit for food. As it requires considerable time to draw the birds contained in an ordinary shipment, and there is a decided loss in weight as well, stock should be shipped undrawn whenever the market will accept it.

When birds are to be drawn, the operation should be performed immediately after the pin-feathering is finished or after they have become slightly cooled, as it is more difficult after they are thoroughly chilled. A sharp knife is essential, although some dressers prefer to make the necessary incision with curved scissors similar to those used by surgeons. Drawn fowl usually have the head removed also, and this should be done first. Sever the neck close to the head, taking care not to cut the windpipe and gizzard, which should be easily pulled off if left attached to the head. Draw the neck skin back and remove a short section of the bone, thoroughly washing out any blood which may collect. Finally draw the intestines through a small opening, as a large aperture is unsightly as well as unnecessary. Cut carefully through the walls of the abdomen, making the incision entirely around the vent, then hook the first finger into the loops of the intestines and thus pull them out. Usually the heart, liver, lungs and gizzard are left attached in their natural position, as ordinarily the removal of the intestines is considered sufficient.

After this has been accomplished the cavity should be thoroughly rinsed to remove all blood and other secretions.

A select private trade often demands that poultry be even more carefully prepared, in which case the giblets should be removed and cleaned. Cut the gallbladder from the liver, the blood vessels from the heart, and remove the contents of the gizzard. Cut off the shanks after first removing the sinews, which run up through the leg and injure the quality of the "drum stick." To take out these sinews, run a knife blade down the back of the bone of the shank, and then the sinews, and pull the latter out singly by means of a strong fork or skewer.

Still easier way is to have a strong hook fastened to the wall at the proper height.

Place the point of the hook under each shank, which can then be easily drawn out.

The bird is now ready for tying up. Replace the giblets in the body cavity, draw the end of the drum sticks down to the "pope's nose," and there tie firmly. Finally fold the wings behind the back. Birds so tied are unusually attractive, always appearing plump and chunky, due to the absence of sprawling legs and wings.

Birds may be attractively prepared for private trade as follows: Pluck carefully and remove the legs and sinews as above.

With a heavy sharp knife make a cut each side and the entire length of the backbone, severing the ribs. Let these incisions meet in front of the neck and below the vent.

This permits the removal of the head, neck and a quick bearer is also desirable. Perhaps the favorite variety is the Wealthy.

It bears young and in that latitude keeps long. The Dudley Winter somewhat resembles the Wealthy, but Mr. Dudley claims it is an earlier and better seller and keeper.

In cultivating the apples on his farm Mr. Dudley finds it necessary to avoid over-cultivation or too much manuring, both of which practices are liable to force a tender growth not able to withstand the severe winters. A medium growth of sound, healthy wood ripened quite early in the season is found most desirable. The Baldwin is too tender an apple for that locality, and grapes have never been made to live on the Dudley farm longer than three or four years.

Botanical Corporations.

Apples for the North.

The originator of Dudley's winter apple is J. D. Dudley of Castle Hill, a location well up north in the State of Maine.

This latitude only hardy apples are profitable. The season of growth is a little shorter than elsewhere in New England, and a quick bearer is also desirable.

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MASSACHUSETTS FARMER
A JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Weston has apparently walked into eternal youth.

Winter's shower visit to May was good or the hay crop.

The woman in Iowa who claims to be 100 years old has evidently strayed out of the Bible.

The man who marries Miss Krupp will, no doubt, become a big gun in the financial world.

The Duma evidently ought to do more, but give it time. Russia cannot be rebuilt in a day.

Some people think that we ought to have a look canal at Panama in order to keep our enemies out.

The Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale can still lend a hand and a voice, too. Where are you, Dr. Oster?

The Beef Trust, it is said, fears investigation. Let the galled cattle wince, our withers are unruv.

Empire Day showed that Victoria was not one of the people who are soon forgotten after they are gone.

The President has evidently little trust in the beef trust. He finds in it much that is meet for condemnation.

They have found gold on Long Island, N.Y. That's nothing; it has been found and lost frequently in Wall street.

Washington told; the truth, but we are afraid that the city that is named after him is not following his good example.

The oldest civil war veteran, judging from newspaper pictures, does not look much older than the youngest one.

Strawberries make people insane we are told. Yes, guests always get mad at the church festival when the fruit is scarce.

Theodore Roosevelt may be a man of common clay, as Senator Bailey says, but he is pretty well baked, and is a brick, nevertheless.

Wu Ting Fang is a vegetarian, but that does not prove that he is a cabbage head, for he will never be obliged to eat tainted beef.

Nobody talks about Alice Roosevelt now. She is paying the penalty for getting married, but still she has her presents to console her.

The grand European tour has never been made by Rockefeller. Poor man, perhaps he couldn't afford "to go abroad, strange countries for to see."

A bull fight at Princess Ena's wedding festivities! Well, the world "do" move. Perhaps, however, she does not think it any worse than fox hunting.

Weston's walk between Philadelphia and New York shows that age cannot wither nor custom stale the power of the veteran's pedal extremities.

The Montreal Star wickedly says: "Nat Goodwin reports that he lost \$400 in a hotel room, but does not say what the limit was." How could you "go for do?"

It is said that Mr. Borges bought the fruit that was displayed as a part of the product of the Uvero plantation. Even the East India fakirs could not do better than that.

The assault in the corridor of the State House appears to have been a case of Mook turtle soup, but when a man apologizes for getting into a bad stew, what can a poor legislature do?

We must not keep our own men idle while we are helping the unemployed at the Golden Gate. Families must live here as elsewhere, and the grocery man and the provision dealer should be paid.

H. G. Wells is of the opinion that America will yet have its Shakespeare. Well, we have not written our first play yet, but it is still upon the stocks, and may be launched at any time, upon a wondering world.

Two shopkeepers who were brought to police headquarters the other day created quite a surprise because they were young and good-looking. Handsome is that handsome does, however, according to the adage, and appearances are often deceitful.

Good work is being done by some of the mining and railroad concerns in planting timber trees on their waste lands. These operations are supervised by agents of the Bureau of Forestry, and the results will be watched with interest by the farmers of the vicinity.

When one line of production is thoroughly understood, it should be continued regardless of the seasons. The season has been more favorable for Southern vegetable growers than that of last year. Those who refused to be discouraged by last season's losses and stuck to their specialties are averaging up well this year, and with two years together should show a good profit.

The boys who were expelled from Phillips-Andover Academy for plumping a landlord into a pond did not reckon without their host, but now they, no doubt, wish they hadn't been quite so fresh. They have learned that the victory is not always with the hazer. They should hereafter lay to heart Friar Laurence's advice to young Romeo: "Wisely and slow, they stumble that run fast."

The season is at hand when milk is most likely to give trouble with all the long list of rules and requirements which it is the prevailing fashion for boards of health to bring forward. The fact remains that simply by keeping out the dirt and by cooling the milk quickly, an article may be produced that will give satisfaction to the most exacting trade. By cooling quickly is meant that each pail is taken to the cooling room as soon as milked, and immediately put through the cooler or set in ice water or cold well water, or spring water, and the milk kept cold until all the milk has been cooled. Then keep the milk as cool as possible until sent away. Failure to do this

strength

and thoroughly is a weak point in many dairies that otherwise take good care of the milk.

Some of the strawberry dealers are stirred up considerably over the nonsense attributed to a certain Dr. Bloomer of Chicago and his friend statistics, showing that insanity increases during the strawberry season, owing to the effect of the fruit upon persons of nervous temperament! Probably nine-tenths of the statement is due to the efforts of certain enterprising newspaper men who wished to make a sensation at the expense of the scientist. Statements of this kind, whether genuine or not, are not worth serious attention, and should rank along with the stories of the cabbage snake and the disease producing qualities of the tomato, notions at one time in favor with the newspaper actions'.

Certain farm papers that usually take broader views are opposing Government aid in the fight against the moth pest, on the pretense that the moths are a local pest and should be fought by the people in the various States. Were the invaders an armed host from Europe no patriot would dare take such a narrow, short-sighted point of view, especially after the invasion had overcome all local resistance and overspread five States. Neither in the event of a great disaster like that of San Francisco would anybody venture to talk much of what "local people should do for their own good." Possibly during the next fifty years the moth infestation will have proved in its total results the most serious calamity that ever visited this country. Yet, such is human nature, the very people who are moved to lavish generosity by a sudden disaster like the earthquake in California, will oppose the use of a tenth or hundredth part of such amounts when asked for suppression of what, in the long run, cause far more distress and loss of property than did the earthquake. The new insect foes are not fire artillery nor throwing down buildings, but they are quietly putting out some very impressive samples of what they can do if given full swing. A visit of just about an hour in the old infested districts during the height of the season would new some of those objects a decidedly new point of view.

Making the Farm Worth More. Many farms could be improved to sell in the future for from \$500 to \$1000 more than the present value by making improvements, the expense of which would hardly be felt at all.

Trees in the right place are always a good investment and cost next to nothing but the trouble of planting them. The city buyer is quite captivated to find one or two thrifty elms in front of the homestead, and a number of scattered chestnut, shellbark and sugar maple trees in the pastures; while any buyer, however practical, will pay more for a farm with a promising fruit orchard. Almost anything can be bought to order except full-grown trees, and the farm secker is aware of the fact.

The selling value of the farm is greatly increased by keeping things in good repair. Begin with the front yard by fencing out the chickens, manuring the grass, and cutting it three or four times a year instead of once. Repair the fences and keep down all straggling bushes. If the buildings are not kept neat and in repair the price always looks run down, and is, therefore, hard to sell.

It has been found when good roads are built that the value of all farms in the section has increased. Hence it will pay for the farmer to agitate for state roads, and to keep the roads on his own farm in good working condition.

In general, the farmer who wishes to increase the value of his property should put himself in the place of the probable buyer, and ask himself what changes would make the place more desirable. It often happens that a small change, like draining a wet spot, or moving an outhouse, or repairing a bridge, will change the whole impression made by the first sight of a place.

Indeed, when the work of home improvement is once begun the owner is likely to become so interested that his anxiety to sell at all is much decreased.

The Cattle Test in Maine.

The Portland Board of Health and the farmers are still at odds over the tuberculin test. The Board of Health has taken the very radical stand that no milk shall be sold in that city except from cows which have been tested with tuberculin.

The farmers are up in arms against this arbitrary ruling. A mass meeting of three hundred producers voted unanimously against having the cows tested in this way.

This old question has been fought out in Massachusetts with the result that the tuberculin test is no longer imposed by the government which it at one time received.

The scientific part of the question seems to be in an uncertain condition just now with some eminent authorities asserting that tuberculosis is very seldom conveyed from cattle to human beings. They declare that almost all cases of human consumption are contracted from other causes, and that the cow consumption is a distinct disease very seldom required by human beings.

Moreover, tuberculin was found an over-detective test because it reacted on animals diseased only to a trifling extent, and which were

proved safe to use for general dairy purposes, the cows being to all intents and purposes healthy animals. Accordingly,

the tuberculin test is not resorted to except by request of owners, the ordinary test by physical examination being considered sufficient to weed out all animals not entirely suitable for dairy purposes.

If the authorities of Maine cities attempt to take this matter in their own hands they have certainly mapped out a large problem.

In Massachusetts the plan failed, although backed by big appropriations from the State Treasury from which the farmers were paid for animals weeded out. Dairymen of other sections will watch the outcome with interest.

To Cope with the Potato Crop.

The people who have been engineering the combination of farmers to raise the wheat crop are out with a new scheme to combat everything else raised on the farm.

As suggested before, we have slight confidence in the management of this enterprise, and the sensational way in which the campaign is carried on does not look encouraging to those who hope for substantial results.

The proposition with regard to the potato crop is a sample of what is attempted. The promoters observe that twelve counties of the United States produce about twenty-five per cent. of the commercial potato crop, a statement which is certainly doubtful, but assuming it to be correct, the promoters will want to do something.

Gifts to African officials. We have received many benefits on account of the

prices on their crops and losses in which they have suffered. The expected result is that the consumers would have to pay the price asked, but the argument fails to take note of the enormous surplus of crops produced in other countries, in fact which American producers have had reason to bear in mind the past year.

The result of withdrawing the commercial crop of the United States would be simply to afford a most excellent market for the potato growers of Germany, France, Britain, Belgium, Canada, and others. These outside growers have taken advantage of the market, the starch factor buying some in and offer to take the American producer at about one-fourth price, whatever it would be.

Probably one year's experience of this scheme would be enough, unless conditions of the world's markets were so exceptionally favorable that American producers had the market to themselves. It is hard to see how a project of this kind can amount to anything more than a loss.

During the week a letter has been received from J. A. Everett, the promoter of the "Equity" scheme, taking this paper to task for his criticism, but offering a check for restoration to his good graces through a change of attitude. But after a careful study of the literature sent with the letter, we fail to find anything to commend, and so will be obliged to stay out of favor for the present.

The latest news with regard to the scheme is that its promoter has failed up and disappeared. Farmers who have paid their dues of \$2, with which wonderful results were to be accomplished, will be likely to ask some pertinent questions at the coming Chicago "convention." If that event is not given up in view of the present difficulties

it is evident that he is not to be reckoned with.

A Long and Honorable Career.

President Eliot's long connection with Harvard has lent added distinction to that time-honored institution of learning. He has been a member of its faculty for a longer time than any other instructor save one, and his career has been marked by many improvements and reforms which have been of far-reaching importance.

He has been an inspiration to the young men who have come under his influence, and many who have attained distinguished positions in various professional walks, in business and in literature, took book with pleasure to the profit they derived by being brought under his firm but benevolent sway. They have been taken from academic halls and memories of a man sympathetic with the aspirations of youth and ready to advise wisely on all questions, whether of work or pastime, in a fatherly spirit and with the heart of a man, who, in spite of the lapses of years, had never grown old in feeling, but was ever progressive and fully abreast of the times in all matters of worthy current interest. His ripe experience, his sound judgment and the charm of his personality have made them love their Alma Mater with an affection which no care or trial can displace.

President Eliot's long administration has been one of ever increasing benefit, not only to Harvard, but also to the whole Commonwealth for material advantages, and who played a despicable part in history. If he had lost his life in a self-sacrificing fight for a principle he would have been esteemed, even by his enemies, but now he has won only eternal detestation. There are real patriots in Russia who are not bomb throwers, and Gapon was false to them as well as to the more radical and destructive of the revolutionists.

Memorial Day.

It is now more than forty-five years since the breaking out of the war between the Southern States in their endeavor to secede from the Union and form an oligarchy of their own, with slavery as the foundation on which they hoped to base their future prosperity, and the Northern States, which were determined to preserve intact the Union as our forefathers had established it.

In that time which has passed the barefoot boy, fresh from school or college, who willingly volunteered for what he believed to be the cause of right, and so willingly ventured life or limb and endured the hardships of the camp, the man, and the battlefield, has almost reached the limit of three-score years and ten, and many of those yet living of his stamp are crippled by disease, or by wounds, or aged beyond their years because of what they suffered in the army or have suffered since they returned home. How many of those volunteers have passed away, let the sadly depleted ranks of those who will march out under the old flag on Memorial Day, and the many flags in our cemeteries marking the spots where lie the mortal remains of their departed comrades, tell the tale.

But other and greater changes have taken place, which are directly or indirectly the result of that war, and the final victory of the Union forces.

First and foremost many would place the setting free of three millions of slaves, the raising of them from the classification of beasts of burden to human beings who have rights which the white man is bound to respect, and changing them from property to property owners. The giving them a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and the partial success in educating and fitting them to become citizens of our Republic, at least as good as the peasants who come here from the plains of Russia or the mountains of Italy, are but other results of the war.

As a direct result of the war we have now

a financial system, which is equalled by but few and surpassed by none of the older countries of Europe; a system which makes the notes of every bank in the United States as good in another State or Territory, no matter how remote, as it was in the town or city where it was issued. Those who can remember the "wildcat banks" of the days before the war, the suspicion with which many people looked upon bank-bills issued in another State, and the discounts to which they were subject, often amounting to twenty-five per cent., and sometimes to fifty per cent. or more, can realize how great a blessing it is to rich and to rich it is to have a stable currency of recognized value not only in all parts of our country, but throughout the civilized world. And the credit of the United States is so well established that even the expenses of the war with Spain did not greatly depreciate the value of our bonds.

Mr. Henderson was formerly from Missouri, and we wonder how the wholesale destruction alluded to will be appreciated, say in St. Louis. It seems to us that it was unnecessary, for the spirits might have been disposed of quietly without exciting the regret of too many Congressmen.

She did, however, better than a grocer of this city, who, when he was converted to the Washington movement, spilled what ardent spirits he had on hand into the street, but did not turn the considerable money that he had made by selling liquor after them or into the treasury of a philanthropic society. He retired from business and became a city official, in the days when the influence of the muckrakers was not as powerful as it is said to be today.

Indeed, when the work of home improvement is once begun the owner is likely to become so interested that his anxiety to sell at all is much decreased.

Gatetown Reform.

It is said that Mrs. Henderson, wife of ex-senator John B. Henderson, had emigrated to the guitar at Washington, D. C., one thousand bottles of rare old wines and brandies in her devotion to tea-total reform of which she has lately become an advocate.

This was rather an ostentatious way of displaying her zeal, and, besides, it resulted in a temporary temptation to the worst element of the negro population, who gathered around her to drink the stimulating liquids into tomato cans and other convenient vessels.

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But the greatest change of all is in the Southern States, which seceded. Freed from the incubus of slavery, which depended on the labor of the slaves, they have entered upon a new system, which depends largely upon the education and intelligence of its laborers for its success. It is no longer entirely dependent upon the North for its manufactured goods. Its cotton, its lumber, its minerals and its oil are being utilized at home, and are sent out as finished products to other countries. Northern men and Northern capital have contributed to this, and not only have they been welcomed, but those States are even now seeking immigration from other countries in the hope that it will help to build them up, as it has the Western States and the Great Northwest. Before the war, the presence of a stranger in the Southern States was looked upon with suspicion as a menace to their peculiar institutions, and all the more so as he was educated and intelligent.

The development of agriculture in the South has been phenomenal. They no longer have to import vegetables from the North, and the more pro-

gressives among them, which include most of those who have migrated there from the Northern States, as well as some of the native born, have learned the value to them of the markets of our large cities, and are prepared in large areas with vegetables and fruit which they can forward to us when our group is frozen, giving to us their produce at prices profitable to themselves, and yet low enough for the mechanic and laboring man to indulge in them almost every month in the year, instead of only during our brief summer.

Nevertheless, he was an entirely honest man, a brilliant speaker and incisive writer after he had become familiar with the English language. Of his love for his adopted country there is no question, and his independence was of such a stalwart character that it almost amounted to a bluntness. He had little of the conciliatory disposition which has marked some of our other statesmen, and, therefore, he did not shine in the field of statesmanship. He was the last of the great statesmen of the war period, and as time goes on and the abilities he excelled are forgotten, he will be recalled as an orator whose eloquence was never exerted in an unworthy cause. He himself was right, even if he was sometimes extravagant in his conclusions. Socially he was one of the most genial and companionable of men.

A Sad Conclusion.

Hero worship may be a good thing, but oftentimes it is bestowed upon a man who is unworthy to receive it, and it is so in the case of Father Gapon, if all the stories we hear about him are true. He excited the sympathy of nearly the whole world by the publication of his memoirs, and he was supposed to be the friend of the poor Russian people who were laboring to be freed from oppression through appeals to the Czar.

The latest news with regard to the scheme is that its promoter has failed up and disappeared. Farmers who have paid their dues of \$2, with which wonderful results were to be accomplished, will be likely to ask some pertinent questions at the coming Chicago "convention." If that event is not given up in view of the present difficulties

it is evident that he is not to be reckoned with.

Not the least of the benefits the South

has derived from her defeat, greater than

she could have attained by a victory, is that

Northern energy and enterprise have completed the work begun during the war, by the cleansing and sanitization of the larger Southern cities, the yellow fever, and kindred diseases which flourished as a pestilence.

When we consider all this, and all the

Poetry.

(Miscellaneous.

THE BAD LITTLE BOY.

The bad little boy has fallen asleep,
On a bad little boy was he;
His toys he has carelessly thrown in a heap—
He was as naughty as naughty could be.
He disobeyed mother and ran out to play
On the street with the other bad boys;
Worn out and weary at close of the day
He has fallen asleep with his toys.

The bad little boy wouldn't do as he told,
For he has a will of his own;

And the room where he plays is a sight to behold,
The room where she shut him alone.

"If you don't be good I'll tell papa," said she,
As she left him and shut fast the door.

"Tell him!" the bad little boy said, and he

Kicked his toys all over the floor.

So I went to punish that bad little boy.

For a bad little boy was he;

When I was as bad as could be.

And I thought of the many times mother had

said—

She would tell of my obstinate way;

And now she'd forgive me and take me to bed,

When I fell asleep at my play.

With me was a youngster of six.

So I took up the bad little boy in my arms

And carried him up to his rest;

And I thought that of all this life's wonderful

charms,

A bad little boy is the best.

—Detroit Free Press.

THE LAMP IN THE WEST.

Venus has lit her silver lamp
Low in the simple West.
Breathes a soft and mellow light
Upon the sea's full breast;

It is the hour when velvet winds

Tremble the ader's crest.

Fair out, fair out the restless bar

Stands from a troubled sleep,

Whose roaring through the narrow straits

The meeting waters leap;

But still that shining pathway leads

Across the lonely deep.

Where unknown dangers be,

And cross the troubled, moaning bar

To the mysterious sea—

Dear God, wot! Then not a lamp

Low in the West for me?

—Elli Higginson.

INTERCHANGE.

The orange sang on the apple tree;
The sick girl lay on her bed, and heard
The mournful note of the glad wild bird;
And "Ahi!" she sighed, "to share with these
Life's rapture exquisite and strong:

Its fragrance and its song!"

The orange swayed in the apple tree,

And he sang: "I will build, with my love, a

a nest;

Fine as e'er welcomed a birdling guest;

Like a pendent blossom, secure yet free,

It shall hang from the bough above me there,

Bright, bright with the gold that is combed for me

From the sick girl's auburn hair."

Then he built the nest in the apple tree;

And, burned over, a ball of light,

It gleamed and shone in the sick girl's sight.

And she gazed upon it wonderingly:

But when the bird had forever flown,

They brought the nest from the apple tree

To the bed where she lay alone.

"Oh, builder of this mystery!"

The wide and wistful eyes grew dim,

And the soul of the sick girl followed him—

"Dear bird! I have had part, but undivided attention

and deep admiration.

For about one minute—then the hostess called

Miss Barrett up to the nursery.

Miss Barrett up to the nursery.

"You go on down, Grace," said Harrowsome junior.

"Jenk and I'll stay here till the boy is asleep.

He always wants his father to sit with him till he goes to bed," explained Harrowsome faufully, to his now hopeless friend.

It was half an hour before the small tyrant

climbed into his nest in the dark room.

"I am told," he said, "that that is killed on the side of the hill in which that house is made."

In a small patch of nettles within a few feet

of the mouth of the fox's earth a partridge

placed her nest and brought off her brood.

Round this nettle bed the cubs were constantly

to be seen, and in it they played hide and seek.

In another case the entrance to an earth was

surrounded by five or six rabbit holes the tenants

of which were unobserved by their next door neighbors.

In a third a litter of cubs was placed in a large

pit surrounded by from, from which there was

no sign of life, and in which were numerous

nesting birds. These were scattered in the

cubs, though they would seize a dead rabbit in

two weeks.

Miss Barrett up to the nursery.

In undigested gloom Jenkins sulked and

listened to his host's recital of more juvenile

brilliances for an interminable time, till the

two women returned. Then Jenkins rose.

"You're not going!" they cried.

"It's time for my last train," said Jenkins

quite coldly. "No; I'm sorry, but I can't wait

any later. I've had a trifling accident."

The man who had saved him from his brother

concerning the Harrowsomes had wreaked the

romance of his life was the first discovery that

Miss Barrett lives only six doors from his own

home. So he has forgiven them.—Illustrated

Beta.

THE SONGS MY MOTHER SANG.

And dream? Ah, fair Queen of the sea,

Not all thy witching and enthrall

And fold me in thy arms of memory!

A thousand leagues one tone can call,

In fadless form and seems to me;

And through thy Angelus shrill ring

Out o'er the Adriatic sea.

I hear through all its rhythms ring

These dear old songs my mother sung!

O angelus-hour to heart and soul,

O angelus-hour of peace and calm,

When o'er the farm the evening stars,

Enfolding all in sunbeams!

Without the scents of fields—the musk

Of hedge, of corn, of winnowed hay—

The subtle attars of the dust;

And glow-worms like somkiy way;

Within, as from an angel's tongue,

Those dear old songs my mother sung:

"From every stormy wind blows";

"Softly now the light of day";

"Thou hidden source of calm repose";

"I love to steal awhile away";

"My days are gliding swiftly by";

"Depart ye, ye birds, to your nest";

"Jesus look with pitying eye";

"Rock of ages clef for me";

"Nasir, on me Thy grace bestow";

"Praise God from whom all blessing flow!"

—Edgar L. Wakeman.

A FABLE FOR EDUCATIONISTS.

There lives in some outlandish place

A sadly disputatious race;

Theirs is a very curious case:

For, whatso'er the reason be,

It seems they never could agree

About the color of the sea.

One section of them took the view

That it was obviously blue;

But others said, "No, it was green;

So any one with sense would say."

The rival factions came on board

My yacht, and earnestly implored

That I would end their discord.

Thus importuned, I answered, "Halt,

It seems to me you're all at fault.

Do you agree the sea is salt?"

"Yes," they replied, "but you forget—

"No, wait! I haven't finished yet.

Do you agree the sea is salt?"

They did. "Well, let us start with that,

All my children get it pat,

It's quite enough for any brat."

When they are bigger let them choose

Among the greens and grays and blues."

(Some interruption here, and boos.)

—Punch.

O fortunate, O happy day,

When a new household finds its place

Among the myriad homes of earth;

Like a new star just sprung to birth,

And rolled on its harmonious way

Into the boundless realms of space!

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

"Heed not the various tongues, True lineage,

Despite them all unsightly still remains;

"Tis like the sea, so mighty and immense

That naught withstands it and that nothing

stains!"

(Miscellaneous.

A Good Time for Jenkins.

Before Harrowsome met a girl, who was the most wonderful creature the world had ever seen, and married her, she was retiring into oblivion no far as mere friends were concerned, he and Jenkins had been bosom friends.

Harrowsome having whistled Harrowsome of the suburbs, he and Jenkins had been little of each other in the three years which followed. Jenkins had paid his wedding call and had been asked out to dinner, but suburban table manners finally got in their deadly work, so it had been many moons since he and the Harrowsome had met in a social way.

Rushing into the bank just before closing the other day, Jenkins ran full tilt into Harrowsome.

"Why didn't you ever come round and see us?" demanded the latter. "Can't you come tomorrow night? We'll have a regular good time. Grace has a pretty girl visiting, and we'll play whist. And you have never seen my boy."

"I'll come," said the innocent Jenkins, lured by the whilst and the pretty girl. If there is anything he likes it is a good game of cards with congenial friends and a decent cigar to follow.

Miss Barrett did not believe the reputation given her

The Horse.**Breeders' Notes.**

For farm work good grade draft or coach horses cannot be excelled and they sell readily, when matured, at good prices.

In deciding what type of horses to raise, the farmer should consider the market in which he expects to sell and his opportunities for producing that style.

Punishment is rarely necessary for a horse unless he is vicious. Kindness and patience will accomplish much more than harsh treatment.

The farmer must raise horses that he can sell readily, not trade. Any horse will trade but every one will not sell.

Some three hundred horses will compete at the Inter-State Horse and Automobile Show, to be held at Rutland, Vt., June 6. A feature of the show will be the selection of two stallions and two brood mares for the starting of the United States Experimental Station for the breeding of Morgan horses for cavalry use.

As a rule geldings will prove unprofitable to keep on the farm. Sell them when matured and either use good brood mares or growing colts to do the farm work.

It would appear from Government statistics that the value of horses has increased surprisingly during the past nine years. On Jan. 1, 1897, there were 14,864,667 horses in the United States, and their estimated value at that time was \$422,649,306, the average value at this estimate being about \$31.50 per head. On Jan. 1, 1906, the total number of horses was 18,715,378, and their estimated value was \$1,510,889,906, which is about \$80.75 per head, or more than 2½ times as much per head as was their estimated value nine years ago. This does not indicate that the horseless carriage has seriously injured the horse-breeding industry, at least so far as values are concerned.

Breed only from sound mares and to sound stallions is certainly sound advice. Practical breeders have learned from experience that an animal which has become unsound from accident, but whose ancestors were free from hereditary unsoundness, is much less liable to transmit the infirmity from which he or she has suffered than is a sound animal, some whose ancestors suffered from the same form of unsoundness, which was hereditary. This may seem to a novice like a distinction without a difference, but it is not. The progeny is more liable to inherit the characteristics of the family than of the individual.—Horse Breeder.

Butter Markets Firm.

The butter situation in Boston is firm at the present level of prices, receipts being moderate, and, in fact, considerably below those of this period last year. The backwardness of the pasture season is no doubt responsible, and an improvement should be noticed from now on in quantity, whatever may be said of quality. As a rule, heavy rains increase the watery content of pasture grass, and while the milk flow is stimulated the quality is not improved.

Strictly choice butter stock is held at firm prices, a fraction above the lowest of the recent decline, and, in fact, really choice cannot be bought below 20¢ cents. Undergrades show no change, and as usual are not in very brisk demand. Dairy butter is mostly below extra quality, and nothing is offered in any considerable quantity for more than 18 cents and most of it sells at 16 to 17 cents. Box and print butters, as for some time past, are in over-supply and cannot be sold for more than tub butter. A little improvement is noted, however, in the demand for print butter, although the price is unchanged as compared with other grades.

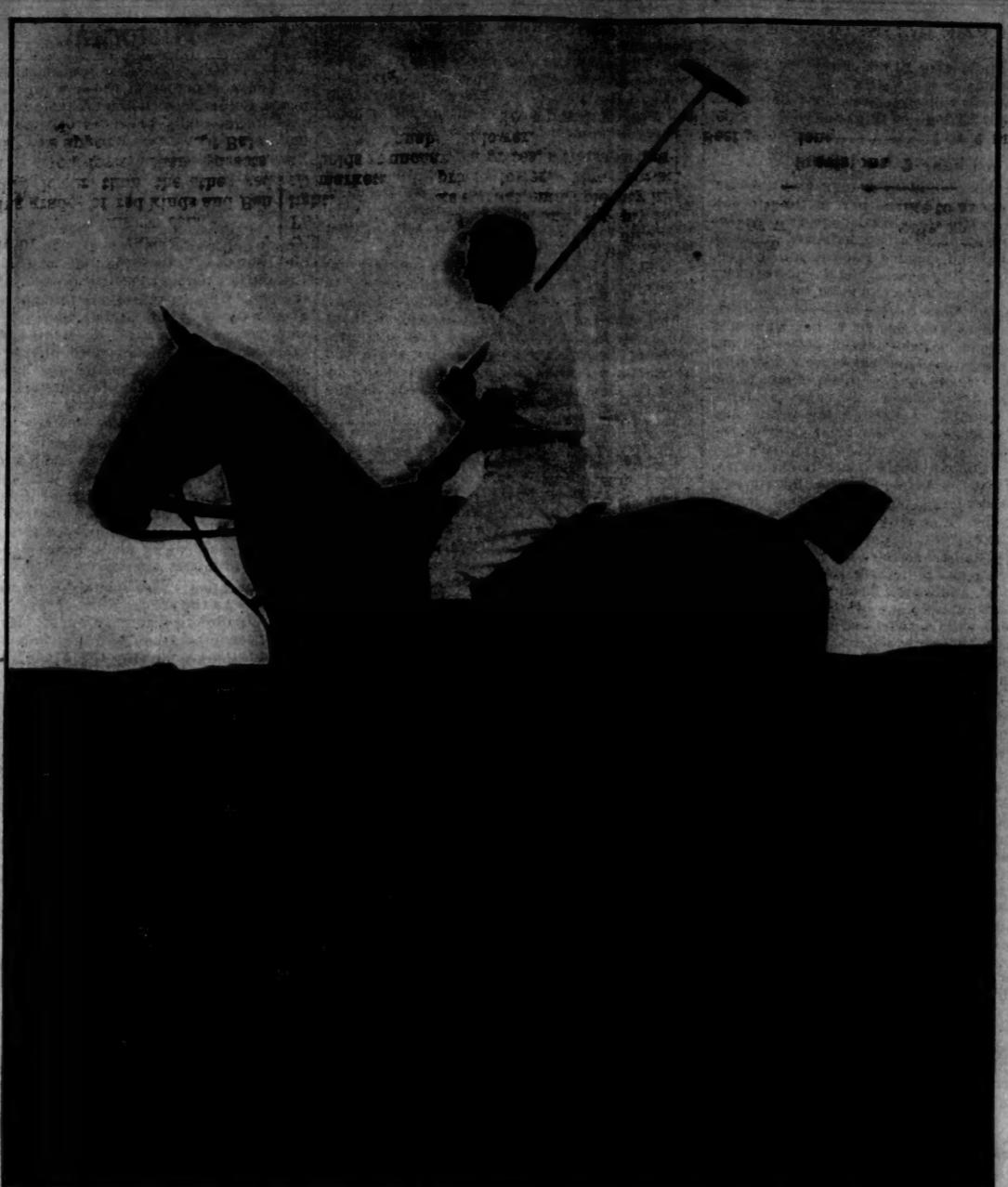
The general conditions affecting the butter trade are not unfavorable. The good times are still with us in full force, and there is no definite sign of the end of them. Industrial conditions, both in the United States and Europe, are active, and the mass of the people able to buy and pay for plenty of the best dairy products. A lively export movement is in progress, which means relief from the old stock in storage and much of the lower priced stock of the current make as well as considerable factory and imitation butter. All this helps the general market here, and improves the position of the better grades. As long as prices are moderate, and receipts likewise, there is nothing in sight of an unfavorable nature. The recently improved conditions of pasture will increase receipts, and thus provide a factor looking toward lower prices, but otherwise there is nothing tending in that direction. The quality of receipts is only fair, according to reports at the leading receiving centres.

The storage butter is now about out of the market, having been withdrawn from the regular quotation list. About thirty thousand packages will have to be carried over in Boston. It is hoped a good part of it may be worked off in the export trade.

The New York market is working higher. The proportion of extras is not large, and this is adding to the strength of the position, as buyers are discriminating much more closely in the matter of quality. Firsts are in fairly liberal supply and selling generally at 19 to 20 cents. The best grade of seconds has also improved a little, but there is a slow market for defective stock. The inquiry has been quite largely for current consumptive use. Speculators do not like the present drift of values and are holding off. Renovated held a trifle steady for fine grades, but prices not notably changed. Best marks of factory are doing a little better, and there is a steady feeling on all grades of packing stock.

In the New York cheese market higher prices paid at western and northern New York markets at the close of last week caused a very strong feeling here, and a sharp advance was made in the official quotations on all grades of full cream cheese, with large sizes showing the most strength. While higher prices were generally expected, it was not thought the market would make no sharp advance, and buyers of small cheese were generally inclined to hold off and see where they are at, and trading has been comparatively moderate so far. Advices indicate some increase in supplies to come this week of small cheese, but there is still a very small proportion of white cheese. Large quantities in moderate supply, and exporters appear still in want of stock, but many factories have turned to making largely, and supplies expected to be a trifle larger than for a week or two past. Skins have advanced in sympathy with full cream.

Last cable advices to George A. Codd, from the principal markets of Great Britain, give butter markets as active, supply and demand about equal. Holders are



MR. ROBERT C. MCQUILLEON ON POLO PONY, "BEN BOLT."

firm and prices well sustained. Fines grades: Danish 22 to 23 cents, Irish and New Zealand 21 to 22 cents, Australian, Argentine and Ecuadorean 20 to 21 cents; American creamery in somewhat improved demand, and stocks are being well cleared out at a range of prices from 16¢ to 18¢ cents.

Renovated has a little better sale at 14¢ to 17 cents. Ladies selling moderately well at 15¢ to 16 cents. Cheese markets are slightly higher, as the demand keeps ahead of the supply on new. Finest American and Canadian 12 to 13¢ cents.

For the twelve months ending with January, Great Britain imported 2,455,666 hundredweight of cheese, of which the United States supplied only 164,662 hundredweight, while Canada supplied 1,575,838 hundredweight. In the same way Canada supplied more than twice as much of the imports of butter as did the United States.

Egg Storage Still Active.

Receipts of eggs show an increasing tendency, having been about one-fourth larger last week than for the corresponding week of last year. The quality is excellent, owing to the rather cool weather of late. Quite a portion is going into storage, the cost ranging around 18¢ cents.

Indications are that the storage will catch up with last year's excessive figures, and as the price is equally high, there is an outlook for another season of loss to somebody. From the producer's point of view, however, the situation is all right.

The storage people are taking care of the surplus and prices are held fairly well, considering the large production. In a year like the present cold storage is, no doubt, a great benefit to the poultryman. Were it not for this market for the surplus, eggs would be cheap at the present time, while later in the year the price might go up suddenly or dodge up and down in an erratic manner, without much benefit to producers, except the few who produce an abundance of eggs in the off season. Under storage conditions prices are kept from going very low in the spring, while in fall and winter the rise is more gradual and prices more steady. The storage men, no doubt, average some profit from their operations, but they undergo a great deal of risk and of late years their profits have been a subject of no great envy on the part of the producers.

On the whole, the cost of storage eggs is higher than last year. So far there have been very few cheap eggs put away. Perhaps in June there may be some that can be bought lower, but the quality is almost sure to be inferior unless the month is unusually cold. The storage people do not seem nervous over the outlook, but deserve that the very active consumption of eggs will take care of everything in sight. If the next winter should prove to be a severe one they would make money. The demand is now very good, the trade in New York city alone taking about eighty thousand cases a week, but trade in both Boston and New York will be cut down greatly as soon as the summer weather sets in and numerous patrons leave for the seashore. Yet it may be said that many of the southern hotels buy their eggs, and much of the other produce, in the large cities, so that some of the trade is continued. The rest, of course, goes to somebody, chiefly the local dealers, who are able to supply the storage residents directly.

At New York there is no material change in the market. Receipts are falling off, and some of the fine stock is still going into cold storage, leaving but a small proportion of high-grade goods for sale on the open market. These are first, but there are very few of the Western receipts for which our quotations for first and extra first can be obtained. A very large part of the regular packings is selling from 16¢ cents downward, some ordinary Southwestern going as low as 15 to 16¢ cents. Kentucky and Southern are dull, and quotations are extreme.

Fruit Prices Steady.

Apples are not doing much on the market, supply being very light and prices too high to induce much demand. Anything really fancy of the red varieties usually brings \$2. Bananas about 10 cents and corresponding grades of red kinds and red Deltas quoting lower than the other red kinds, and, in fact, lower than the others, unless of very fine appearance. No. 2 Baldwins bring \$1.25, No. 3 Bananas about \$1.

Broilers became more plenty as the season advances and prices went a little lower. Hatching is now quoted above 20 cents, compared with 16 cents last week. Heavy-weight market chickens, however, held about 20 cents, and were particularly with market fowls, and will not move unless very high. Birds held at steady prices, and supply is light. Game birds are extremely plenty in all seasons and prices lower. Live poultry is in moderate supply, with 75 cents and less. Skins are prime.

A feature of the New York poultry mar-

ket is the large receipts of ducks. The duck raising business on Long Island seems to have been overdone the past year or two. The demand at all times is limited, only a portion of the market caring for duck meat, and the effect of over-production quickly shows itself in decline of prices. Fancy nearby ducks are selling lower than old hens and not in good demand even at the price. Southern producers have also been shipping large quantities of ducks, which, being good weight, brought a better price than others. The regular line of Southern ducks is poor and when cold alive bring only 50 to 60 cents a pair, a price that can hardly prove profitable to producers.

Boston Milk Supply.

The following statement shows the receipts of milk by rail at Boston during the month of April: Boston & Albany, 1,057,000 quarts; Boston & Maine, 6,051,116 quarts; New York, New Haven & Hartford, 1,000,128 quarts, as compared with Boston & Albany, 1,056,129 quarts; Boston & Maine, 5,124,000 quarts; New York, New Haven & Hartford, 4,957,014 quarts for March.

Weather Checks Vegetable Supplies.

Receipts of asparagus have been somewhat interfered with by cold, wet weather, which also checked the growth, but the approach of better weather brings heavy receipts. Considerable shipments still arrive from New Jersey, but the bulk is now native and of very fine quality. The best bring \$2 and \$2.50, with some fancy, so-called Giant, being merely selected stocks of the ordinary varieties, selling a little above regular quotations.

Cabbages from the South are plenty, but the price is well maintained. Cucumbers are in moderate supply, with prices about the same as last week. The piles of Southern onions have improved a little. The season is reported profitable for Southern growers of this vegetable. Peas are quite plenty with range of quality and price from 50 cents to \$2, many of the shipments being \$1 and \$2.50, with some fancy, so-called Giant, being merely selected stocks of the ordinary varieties, selling a little above regular quotations.

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Onions in active demand and firm.

The situation of old potatoes is improving, owing chiefly to the pronounced shortage in the Southern crop. Best Maine stock quotes at 50 cents and Canadian Chamonix at 70 cents. It looks as if the remaining stock of old potatoes would be sold out at full price, and an advance is even possible, the partial failure of the Southern crop proving just the circumstance needed to strengthen the market.

At New York the market for old potatoes continues firm, with some holders asking slightly more than quoted for strictly choice stock. New potatoes are in active demand and market ruled firm and fully 20 cents higher. Sweet potatoes are nearly all poor and dragging at low figures. Onions in active demand and firm. Asparagus is in poor condition today and prices lower. Roots and carrots steady. Cabbages are in good demand and firm, though much of the supply poor and soft ranged lower. Peas are in active demand and higher; some Jersey arriving; considerable stock shows poor quality, especially from Southern sections, and such drags at low figures. String beans are slightly higher for fancy, but poor stock is neglected and low. Tomatoes selling generally from 40 cents to 50 cents. Onion prices reach 50 cents to 55 cents.

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